

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached two (2) sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a and 6b. These sheets replace the original sheets including Figs. 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a and 6b. The changes are as follows:

Element "24" has been changed to "35" on Figs. 4a, 4b, 5a, 5b, 6a and 6b.

Attachments: Replacement Sheets (2)
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes (2)

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The status of the claims after the above amendment:

Rejected – Claims 1-11; and

Contain allowable subject matter – Claims 2-11.

The examiner has rejected all claims under 35 U.S.C §112, second paragraph. This rejection as it applies to the amendment claims is traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to replace the language indicated as confusing by the examiner by language that clarifies the reference to the particular stroke. In addition, claim 1 has been amended to improve the readability of the claim by reordering certain elements. No new matter has been added by the amendment to claim 1. Therefore, this rejection has been obviated and should be withdrawn.

The examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Blair, et al., U. S. Patent No. 6,736,461, hereafter “Blair I.” This rejection as it applies to claim 1 now presented is traversed.

Blair I does not describe every element of the device set out in claim 1. For instance, Blair I does not have “a spring connected to the second end of the cable independently of the seat back.” In Blair I, the spring is directly connected to the seat back. Also there is no cooperation between the spring and an abutment element “to prestress the spring and maintain said spring and said cable in a first position.” Therefore, the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of Blair I is no longer warranted and should be withdrawn.

The examiner has rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as anticipated by Blair, et al., U. S. Patent No. 6,827,404, hereafter “Blair II.” This rejection as it applies to claim 1 now presented is traversed.

Blair II also does not describe every element of claim 1. None of the springs described in Blair II are “connected to the second end of the cable.” Spring 106 in Blair II is disclosed as connected to interlock plate 100 and bracket 114 and spring 26 is connected to the runners. Therefore, the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of Blair II is no longer warranted and should be withdrawn.

The examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 2-11 contain allowable subject matter. Because it is contended that the rejections noted above have been overcome, an early

indication of allowance of this application is respectfully requested. If the examiner believes that a telephone interview will resolve any unresolved issues, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Reconsideration and allowance of the foregoing claims are respectfully requested.

Deposit Account Authorization

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in any amount enclosed or any additional fees which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17, except issue fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1903. A copy of this Transmittal is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX



FIG. 4a.

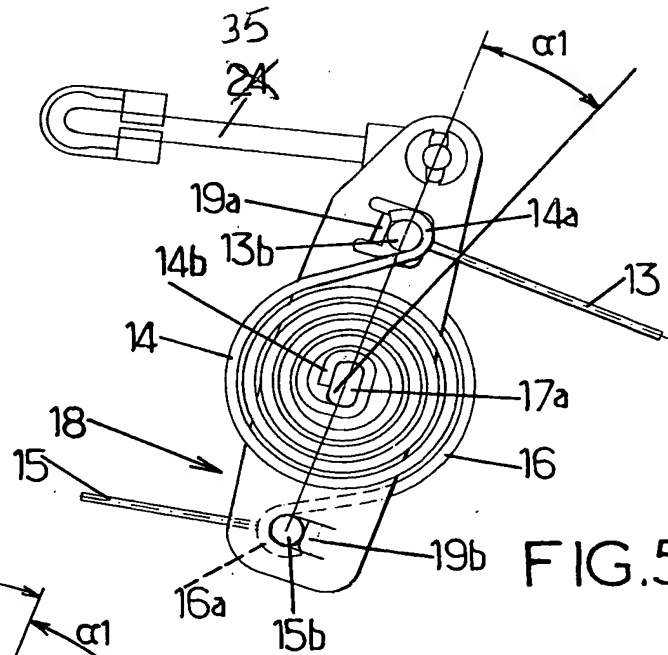
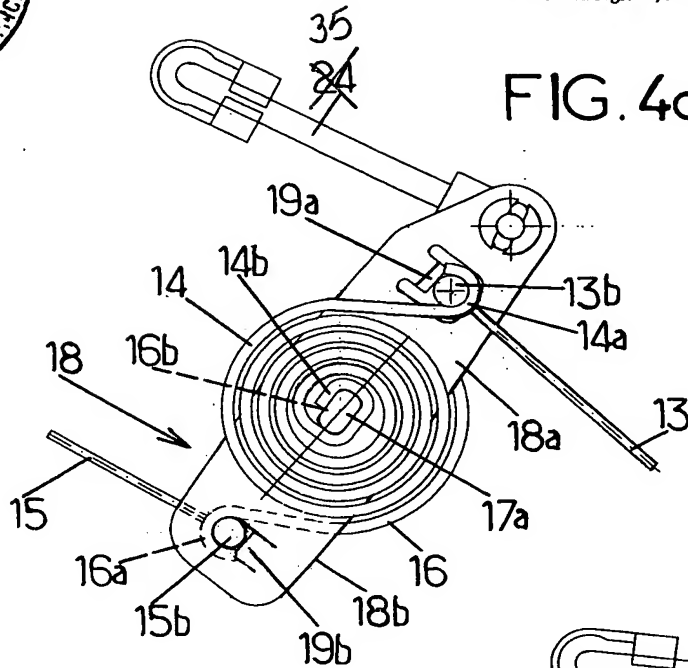


FIG. 5a.

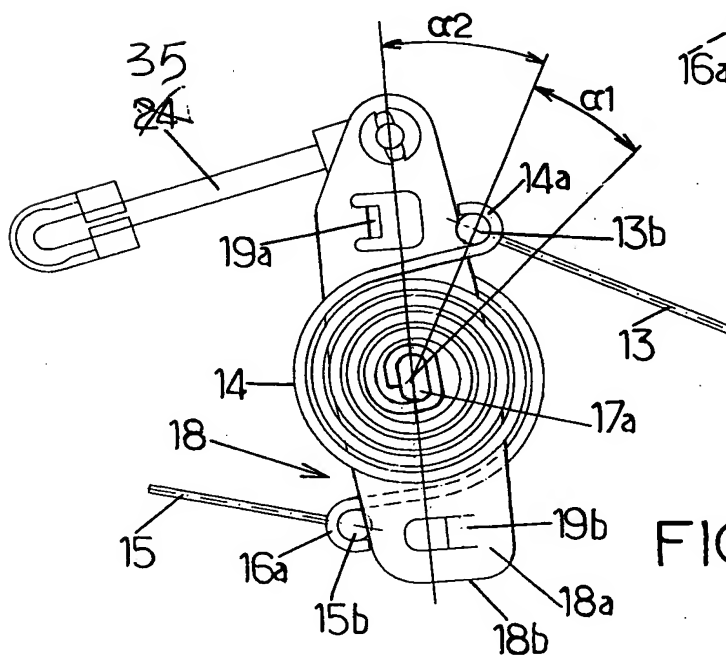


FIG. 6a.

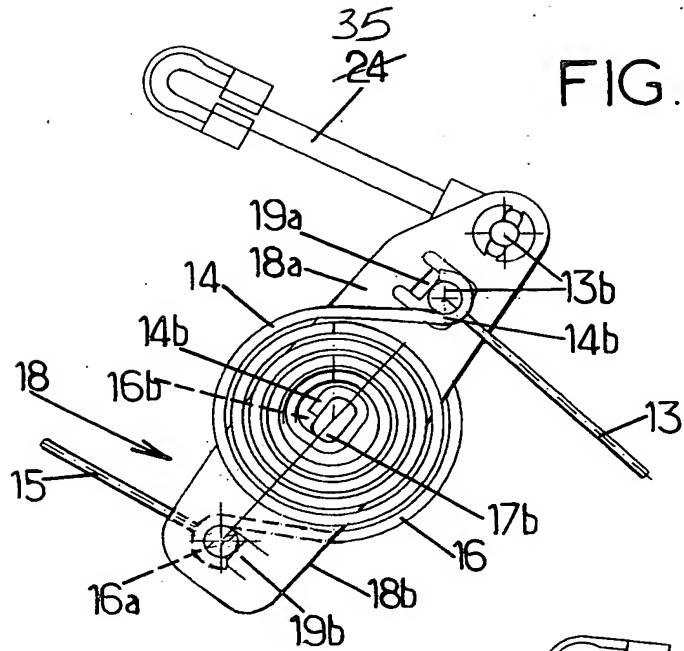


FIG. 4b

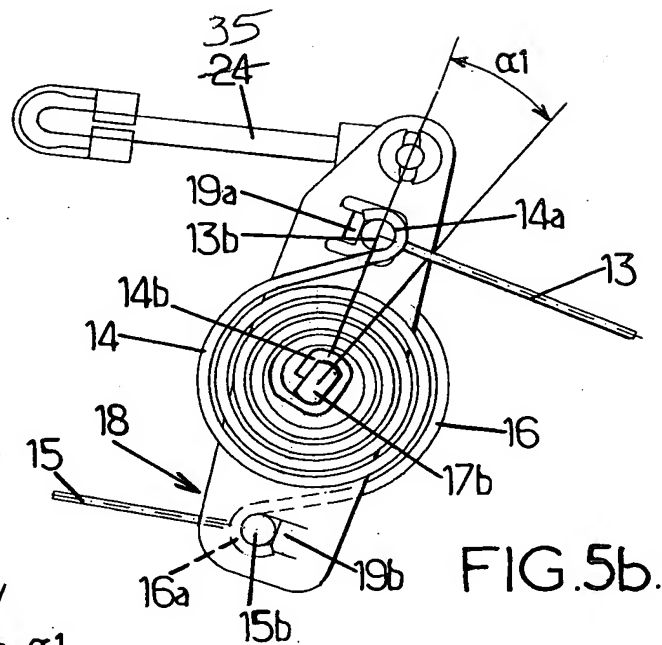


FIG. 5b.

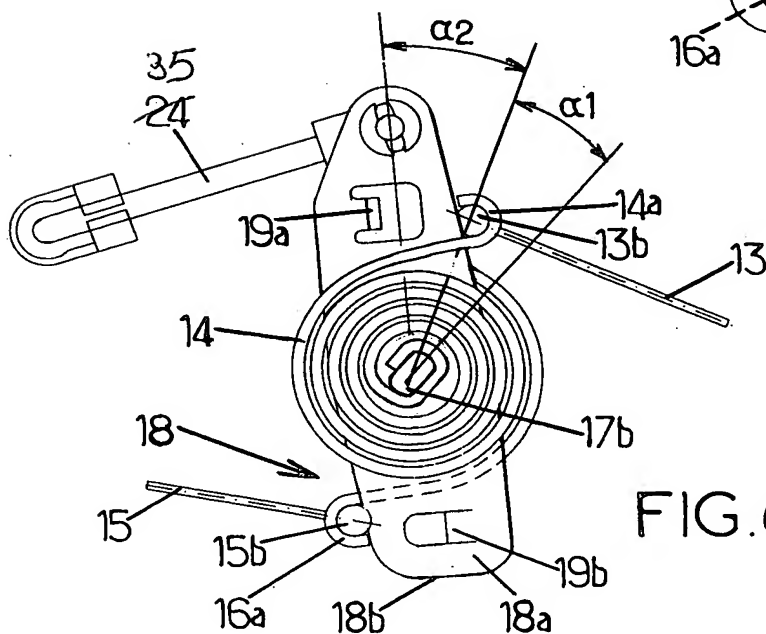


FIG. 6b.